



Mishawaka Communicator



Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life, and inspiring pride in our community.

Dave Wood, Mayor

www.mishawaka.in.gov

July 2014

A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood



I want to take this opportunity to let you know about our current revitalization efforts planned for Central Park. When I took office, there were plans to place a large play structure in the park to make it more of a family destination. At that time, I requested that those plans be re-evaluated thinking that the improvements needed to be more comprehensive.

I made that request from a bit of a historical perspective. Growing up, my grandparents home was only a block away from the park, and I remember being told when I was little not to go to the park alone. While the park had always been considered a little rough by Mishawaka standards, that didn't stop

me from walking on the stone walls and the old train trestle. Like most kids, I was young, had no fear and liked the challenge.

In working with my staff and the Park Board, the concept of a "city-wide destination family park" was more fully developed. We are fortunate to have a talented design team working on the project led by Mishawaka landscape architects Lehman and Lehman, as well as architects from DLZ of South Bend and civil engineers from Lawson Fisher Associates of South Bend.

We view each one of our parks as unique. Central Park, with its location adjacent to the river, history as a company picnic area, connection to the Riverwalk system and close proximity to the downtown, dictated a more significant investment than just replacing the play equipment. We look at our parks along the river and the Riverwalk as a string of pearls...each one different but contributing to the greater system. The proposed improvements, although significant, are intended to be a "once in a generation" investment and will add to the quality of life for our citizens for years to come.

Just like when I was young, our youth of all ages need challenges. If we don't provide something interesting, kids will find others things to do that may not be desirable.

(continued on next page)



UPCOMING EVENTS!

Jul 4	Fireworks at dusk
July 23	Kamm Island Fest
Aug 3	ND Shakespeare Festival
Aug 4-8	Challenger Sports Soccer Camp
Aug 23-24	Renaissance Festival
Aug 25	Harvest Dance

For information on the **Summer Concert Series**, see the back page of this Communicator or visit <http://mishawaka.in.gov/summer-concert-series>

ONLINE ACCESS

The City of Mishawaka maintains an online presence and can be found on the web at <http://mishawaka.in.gov>.

Find us on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/cityofmishawaka>

Remember, the current issue of the Mishawaka Communicator is always available as of the 1st of every month at <http://mishawaka.in.gov/communicator>



"This Counts!"...Join the Movement

Health Information from Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center

A fitter, healthier life is just within reach and every movement can help you get there. Whether it's taking the stairs or having a living room dance party with the kids, it all counts!

Because the health of our community is our number one priority, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRMC) launched **This Counts**—a unique, inspirational journey designed to inspire healthy lifestyle choices through encouragement.

As part of **This Counts**, SJRMC is encouraging community members to submit videos, pictures or stories at ThisCounts.org to inspire change in others. Submissions are public, and select entries will be featured in our upcoming commercials. If your submission is approved, you will receive a sporty This Counts t-shirt. Just be sure to include your contact information in your submission!

SJRMC is encouraging people to be patient and kind to themselves. Simply making the choice to start living a healthier lifestyle is the most important step. Join the movement today and help us inspire Michiana to be a healthier community.

Remember, start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can. Just move.



A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood *(continued)*

As a father of four, I know that trouble can start with bored kids. To embrace this challenge, the following is a list of some of the key elements of the Park for all ages:

- For older kids, a 28-foot rope climbing tower will be installed. It reminds me of a spider web. As far as we know, this will be the tallest "play" climber in the United States. Although a typical young teen may not be interested in traditional play areas, we believe that this will have universal appeal.
- For younger kids, concrete storm pipes will be set into a hill to provide a realistic tunnel crawl experience without the dangers associated with actual storm pipes.
- A variety of standard play equipment will be provided including swings, slides, and climbers that could accommodate over 100 kids at a time.
- A programmable, interactive spray pad and fountains will provide relief from the heat in summer.
- Five rentable pavilions - four smaller pavilions will accommodate a typical birthday party or family picnic at 24-30 persons. One larger pavilion featuring a decorative fireplace can accommodate up to 70 people.
- A new restroom building that will contain six family-sized restrooms for occupancy by one individual or family at a time. The building will be situated between the main play area of the park and the Riverwalk to serve both functions.
- An open event lawn surrounded by a multipurpose walk that will replace the existing softball field and will be an ideal place to picnic, fly a kite, watch fireworks, or even sled in the winter.
- The existing tennis courts will be redone to provide a fenced tennis court and one, fenced full-court basketball court. Other notable park improvements include tiled play surfacing, new site furnishings, decorative lighting, and gateway signage.



*Central Park Pavilion / Outdoor Fireplace**



*Interactive Fountain**

** Concept Illustrations*

We expect the park improvements to start this fall, and be ready to use in mid-summer of 2015.

Mayor Paul

MISHAWAKA PARKS 2014 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Battell Park Bandshell

Mondays - 7:00-8:00PM

Jul 7 Sophisticated Jazz Trio
Jul 14 Michiana Concert Band
Jul 21 Da Bears
Jul 28 Twin Cities / IUSB Concert Band
Aug 4 The Pat Heiden Quartet
Aug 11 Michiana Concert Band
Aug 18 Valleyaires Barbershop Chorus
Aug 25 Harvest Dance w/Everyday People

Beutter Park

Thursdays - 6:30-8:30PM

Jul 4 * Alligator Blackbird (*fireworks to follow*)
Jul 10 Johnny Dawson
Jul 17 Ground Control
Jul 24 Top Secret
Aug 7 River City Band
Aug 14 TBA / Rain Date

** date change*

Movie Night in the Park

Movies begin at dusk

Jul 18 "The Nut Job"
George Wilson Park
Aug 15 "Surf's Up"
Merrifield Pool Complex
Aug 18 "The Searchers"
Battell Park Bandshell

Eberhart-Petro Clubhouse Deck

Fridays - 7:30-9:00PM

Aug 1 Acoustic Justice
Aug 8 Gregory Allen Michael
Aug 15 Marty Miles
Aug 22 The Sandbar Burns

Send your questions, comments, or concerns to communicator_feedback@mishawaka.in.gov